

Instructions for Summer Reading Rising Grades 9-12

Good reading habits are essential for student growth, so all pupils advancing to grades 9-12 will read a book assigned by the English department for their grade level. In the fall of 2021, the department will be hosting forums for the students to discuss these books with peers. The readings for both underclassmen and upperclassmen are inspiring stories based on challenging life experiences. Students must also complete the accompanying project—taking notes to inform their discussions in the fall. See the project assignment for full details about the written component which is due before the first day of school in August (currently scheduled for August 12).

Rising 9th and 10th grade students should read

The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind by William Kamkwamba and Bryan Mealer

Rising 11th and 12th graders should read

Breaking Night: A Memoir of Forgiveness, Survival, and My Journey from Homeless to Harvard
by Liz Murray

Summer Reading English Project Requirements

Students need to write bullet notes or a paragraph summary for each chapter of the assigned, grade-level book. They may choose whichever method works best for them individually. This information will be used within the first two weeks of class when we host discussion forums (similar to book clubs). Even if students won't take English until second semester, they should complete their notes and be prepared to meet and discuss during the first two weeks of school.

Students will receive a grade for their notes/summaries/and participation in discussion.

The notes/summaries should include the following tasks for each chapter:

- Identify several major happenings in the chapter
- List the key characters involved in that chapter
- Identify the setting, any new settings, or changes to setting that occur in the chapter
- Select and copy a quote from the chapter and pair it with a discussion question that would prompt peers to examine the quote in a meaningful way. For example, the quote and question should lead to a discussion about theme, characterization, irony, or the interpretation of figurative language or symbolism—not “yes” or “no” answers or simple facts.

The final document should be labeled with each chapter heading followed by the notes, well organized, handwritten or typed neatly. Students should submit a copy of their notes via email to their English teacher (listed on student schedule sent home in summer) on or before August 12, the first day of school.

In addition to the assigned reading for each grade level, students are assigned additional required reading for any of the following Honors or Advanced Placement classes in which they are enrolled.

Honors English 9

Farewell to Manzanar by Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston and James D. Houston—any edition

Honors World History 10

All Quiet on the Western Front by Erich Maria Remarque—any edition

A.P. English Language (grade 11)

25 Great Sentences and How They Got That Way by Geraldine Woods—Students should also write an original sentence in the style presented through each chapter. Bring your list of 25 sentences with you to A.P. English Language class.

A.P. English Literature (grade 12)

Students in AP English are required to read Sophocles' plays, *Oedipus the King* and *Antigone*, and Shakespeare's play *Macbeth* prior to the start of school in August. Any copy of the plays should suffice for our purposes, but I suggest you avoid an easy side-by-side translation. If you need that, then you might reconsider taking the course.

AP U.S. History (grade 11)

Common Sense by Thomas Paine—any edition

AP Government (grade 12)

Students in AP Government are required to read *Protect and Defend* by Richard North Patterson prior to the start of 2nd Semester. There will be a test given during the first two weeks of the course on the reading.